

school under the jurisdiction of local education agencies." We, in Nebraska, state two semesters. In order to come into compliance, we have to change to one year. If we are not in compliance, we have the possibility of losing \$33,277,000 in federal funds; 29,000 of that go into Chapter I basic program. With that, I would ask you to adopt the amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: I understand, Mr. Clerk, there is an amendment.

CLERK: Senator Beutler would move to amend Senator Bohlke's amendment. (See FA132 on page 1560 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: The call is raised, by the way. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Clerk, members of the Legislature, this is a friendly amendment that Senator Bohlke is agreeable to. All it does is put the word calendar in there so that we are giving clearly direction to the local school districts to comply with the federal law just as the federal law is interpreted. This whole thing is dumb, in my opinion, but it is required according to our own Department of Education, and the department, the Federal Department of Education, and so we are doing this. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Beutler. We are now discussing the Beutler amendment. Senator Bernard-Stevens, on the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Just very briefly, and I will speak on the whole thing, and just take care of it on the Beutler amendment. The Beutler amendment I support. I don't want to take too much time because we only have 15 minutes, but I agree with Senator Beutler. This is a dumb, dumb issue, and the reason it is so stupid is because at the federal level they basically say we have to do it for calendar year, and depending on when that happens in a semester, that may end up being three semesters for whatever crime, whether maybe the child may have forgotten and brought a pellet gun or something to show and tell; they didn't know or understand what it was. You know, the whole thing is crazy. The only thing that is a saving grace of the amendment and why I will end up having to support it is, (a), I don't want to lose the 29 million on federal dollars on the Title I, but also it does say in the amendment that every school district has the option to waive this requirement on an